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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/821,374	04/09/2004	Kwok Hung Chan	USP2076H-ONC	1609
30265	7590	06/28/2005	EXAMINER	
RAYMOND Y. CHAN 108 N. YNEZ AVE., SUITE 128 MONTEREY PARK, CA 91754			TON, ANABEL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2875	

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/821,374

Applicant(s)

CHAN, KWOK HUNG

Examiner

Anabel M. Ton

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 11, 17 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-10, 12-16 and 18, 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1,11,17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jackson et al (6,578,981).

3. Jackson discloses the claimed invention except for the recitation of an operating system in every elementary building unit. Jackson discloses power supply. A connecting chain (14) comprising a tubular shelter (16) and at least a terminal received in said tubular shelter(15b) and extended there along to electrically connect with said power supply (28,fig 2); and a plurality of elementary building units (12) aligned mounted along said connecting chain, a supporting case (74) having an outer light-transmissible surface (72) and a chaining passageway longitudinally extended through said supporting case (42a, 42b, 46a, 46b) such that said connecting chain is slidably extended through said chaining passageway((col.6 lines 15-26, Jackson refers to "threaded bundle", this is considered to anticipate "slidably extended through", "slidably mount" in the instant invention since "threaded" indicates that the lighted beads slidably extended through the passageway of bundled wires) to slidably mount said supporting case along said connecting chain; a lighting system, which is disposed in said supporting case (fig 3), comprising an illuminating unit(70) and a print circuit board (22

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)electrically connected with said illuminating unit for controlling said illuminating unit to illuminate to outside through said light- transmissible surface of said supporting case; and an operating system(90, fig 5) comprising at least an operating member electrically extended from said printed circuit board, wherein said operating member is arranged to penetrate through said tubular shelter to electrically contact with said terminal so as to electrically connect said illuminating unit with said power supply and to substantially retain said supporting case along said connecting chain in position.

With regards to Jackson having an operating system in every bead (12), It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a an operating unit in one bead because the advantages of modifying the beads of Jackson to include an operating unit in each bead would be to provide each bead with an individual light emission pattern, separate from the other illuminated beads. Furthermore it has been held that mere duplication of essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

- The power supply comprises a power hub (28) having a battery cavity. With regards to the recitation “to selectively control the elementary building units in an on and off manner”, Jackson is considered to anticipated this limitation since the battery compartment includes a switching means to turn the lamps on and off (93).
- The building units are connected in series (fig 5);

Jackson discloses each of the illuminating units comprising light emitting diodes, with regards to each illuminating unit having a printed circuit board built in, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a printed circuit board in each bead of Jackson because the advantages of modifying the beads of Jackson to include a printed circuit board in each bead would be to provide each bead with in individual predetermined light emission pattern, separate from the other illuminated beads. Furthermore it has been held that mere duplication of essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 2-10, 12-16,18,20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art cited of record does not teach in combination: the supporting case comprises a lower base and upper housing supporting the lighting system there within, the chaining passageway longitudinally extended though the lower base, the operating member being extended into the chaning passageway to penetrate through the tubular shelter to contact with the terminal; the conducting member having two spaced apart cutting members to define a receiving gap the cutting members penetrating through the

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tubular shelter, the terminal positioned within the receiving gap electrically contacting with the conducting member .

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anabel M. Ton whose telephone number is (571) 272-2382. The examiner can normally be reached on 08:00-16:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Anabel M Ton
Examiner
Art Unit 2875

AMT



Sandra O'Shea
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center: 2875